

Bio-sketch

Introduction

A biographical sketch is a brief narrative that contains details about an individual's life, career, background, activities etc. It develops an understanding of the people, place, times, and events in which the individual lived. It tells the story in a style and tone that the reader/listener can relate to the person. It talks about the person's influence on the world. Thus, in this way, a biographical sketch includes, almost all the major details of an individual.

Points to remember:

1. A biographical sketch does not follow any format and is written in a paragraph.
2. All the basic information of an individual, such as, his full name, date and place of birth, his achievements etc. is included in it.
3. It is written in third-person.
4. Marks are awarded on the content and expression of the write-up. Therefore, special care should be taken to maintain the coherence, accuracy and fluency of the content.
5. Marks may be deducted for grammatical errors and mistakes in spellings and punctuation marks.
6. Although, marks are not deducted for sticking to the word limit, it is preferred that a biographical sketch be written within 80-100 words.

Mark Twain

Write a biographical sketch of Mark twain with the help of the following clues.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens—born November 30, 1835, Missouri—died on April 21, 1910—pen name Mark Twain—American author and humourist—most famous novels are *Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*—most famous character Tom Sawyer, modeled on twain as a child—works based on American society—realism and severity.

Answer:

Samuel Langhorne Clemens was born in Missouri on Nov 30, 1835. He wrote under the pen name of Mark Twain. He is one of the most famous American authors and humourists. His famous works include novels like *Adventures of Tom*

Sawyer and *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. His works depicted the American society with sheer realism and severity. He is best known for developing the character of Tom Sawyer, whom he modelled on his own childhood. He died on April 21, 1910.

Young boy

Given below is the profile of Prashant Kumar. Write his biographical sketch within 80-100 words.

Age: 13 years

Height: 153 cm

Structure: thin

Family: three brothers, one sister, parents in Bihar, parents work as labourers

Work: works at a tea stall in Delhi from morning till evening; poorly paid; lives in the shop; scantily clad

Dreams: dreams to become literate one day

Nature: likes to questions, curious

Wishes: wants to go to school and read comics.

Answer:

Prashant Kumar is a 13 years old, thin boy. He works morning till evening in a tea stall in Delhi. He is 153 cm tall and comes from a large family. He has three brothers and a sister. His parents work as labourers in Bihar. He is a very poorly paid boy and thus, lives in the shop itself. His poverty shows in his clothes as he is quite scantily clad. He wants to go to school and be able to read comics. He dreams of becoming literate and has a curious and inquisitive nature.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Based on the following details, write the biographical sketch of the famous British poet, Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

A famous English lyrical poet, critic and philosopher

Born in England on the 21 October 1772

Educated at Christ's Hospital, London; became friendly with Lamb and Leigh Hunt

Went to Jesus College, Cambridge; failed to get a degree

Father: a pastor and teacher

Founder of Romantic Movement with his poet friend Wordsworth, publication of lyrical ballads (1798).

Suffered from rheumatic and neuralgic pains; addicted to opium; died in Highgate, near London on July 25, 1834

Answer:

The famous British poet, critic and philosopher, Samuel Taylor Coleridge was born in England on the 21 October 1772. He was educated at Christ's Hospital, London, where he became friendly with Lamb and Leigh Hunt. He went to Jesus College, Cambridge, but failed to get a degree.

His father was a Pastor as well as a teacher. Coleridge became the founder of the Romantic Movement with his publication of 'Lyrical Ballads', with his poet friend Wordsworth, in the year 1798. Later, he suffered from rheumatic and neuralgic pains and got addicted to opium. He died in Highgate, near London on July 25, 1834.

Young Footballer of Your City

You are impressed by the young football player of your city. Write her biographical sketch in about 80-100 words using the notes given below:

Ms. Aditi Saxena

Age: 12 years

Profile: student of class VII, smart, confident, state level champion in junior group football

Father: businessman

Mother: teacher

Brother: engineer, encouraged and helped her play

Coach: Mr. Nitin Bakshi (retired national player)

Achievements: started playing at the age of 7, has won various prizes at school, Inter-school and district level.

Answer:

Aditi Saxena, a 12 year-old student of class VII, is a budding football player of the city. This confident and smart athlete started playing football at the age of seven. She has won many awards and prizes at her school football competitions and at inter-school and district level. She has even acquired a state level championship in the junior group. Her father is a businessman and mother is a teacher. Her engineer brother is the one who encouraged her to play football. She is coached by Mr. Nitin Bakshi, who himself has been a national football player

Vijender Singh

Use the notes given in the following box to write a biographical sketch in 80-100 words:'

VIJENDER SINGH

Born October 29, 1985 in Haryana

Spent early days in village; practiced boxing in Bhiwani boxing club

Picked up by Coach Jagdish Singh; won national championships

Participated in 2004 Athens Summer Olympics; 2006 Commonwealth Games; 2006 Asian Games

2008 Beijing Olympics: defeated Carlos Gongora to win first ever Olympic medal (bronze) in boxing for India

2009: awarded Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, India's highest sporting honour

(Source: CBSE, 2010)

Answer:

Vijendra Singh, the great Indian boxer, was born on October 29, 1985 in Haryana. His early days were spent in his village where he practiced boxing at the Bhiwani Boxing Club. His talent was recognized by his coach Jagdish Singh, under whose guidance he won many national championships. He participated in 2004 Athens Summer Olympics, commonwealth Games of 2006 and 2006 Asian Games. He became the first ever Indian boxer to win a bronze medal at Olympics by defeating Carlos Gongora, in the year 2008. In the year 2009, he was awarded with the highest sporting honour 'The Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award'.

Bob Marley

Below you can see some notes about the Jamaican musician, Bob Marley. A record producer plans to bring out a collection of Bob Marley's greatest hits. He wants a brief biography to go on the record sleeve. Use the information and write a short biographical sketch of Bob Marley.

1945- born in Jamaica; English Father, Jamaican mother

1961- first single released

1966- Marley works in a factory in USA for 2 years

1968- returns to Jamaica

1972- first album- Worldwide hit

1975- triumphant tour of UK

1976- shot and wounded by political enemies in Jamaica

1977- continues concert tours

1980- dies of Cancer, May 11

Answer:

Bob Marley, the son of an English Father and Jamaican mother, was born in the year 1945 in Jamaica. His first single release was in the year 1961. He worked in the USA for two years and returned to Jamaica in the year 1968. His first album released in the year 1972 and became a worldwide hit. He made a triumphant tour of UK in the year 1975 but was shot and wounded by his political enemies, a year later, in Jamaica. In the year 1977, however, he continued his concert tours. He died of cancer on May 11, 1980.

School Gardener

Given below is a profile of Mr. Raj, a school gardener. Write a short biographical sketch of Mr. Raj. Clues are given below:

Age: 50 years

Height / weight: six feet, solid built

Family: large-six children, four boys, two girls

Education: high school

Likes: plant, nursery, manure, organic farming

Why he is popular: believes children are like young saplings

Answer:

Mr. Raj, a 50 years old man, works as a school gardener. This six feet tall man of solid built has a large family of six children, four boys and two girls. He is educated up to high school and has a great liking for plants, nursery, manure, organic farming, etc. He is very popular among children as he believes that children are like young saplings and treats them with love and care.

Marie Curie

Marie Curie is one of the most proficient physicists and chemical analyst, the world has ever seen. Given below are notes on her life. Write a biographical sketch of her.

BORN	– 7 November 1867 in Warsaw, Poland
NATURE	– quiet, dignified, unassuming
EDUCATION	– general education in local schools – scientific training from her father
ACHIEVEMENTS	– founded theory of radioactivity – honoured with two Noble Prizes in physics and chemistry – discovered two new elements: polonium, radium
DIED	– 4 July, 1934

Answer:

Marie Curie, one of the most proficient physicists and chemical analyst in the world, was born in Warsaw, Poland on Nov 7, 1867. Marie had a quiet, dignified and unassuming nature. She was educated at local schools and received scientific training from her father. Her greatest achievement remains the discovery of two new elements: polonium and radium. Moreover, she was the founder of the theory of radioactivity and was honoured with two Nobel Prizes, one in physics and other in chemistry. Marie died at the age of 67, on 4 July 1934.

Amitabh Bachchan

Based on the following notes, write a biographical sketch of Mr. Amitabh Bachchan in about 100 words.

- Born on 11 October 1942
- Son of Shri Harivansh Rai Bachchan
- First gained popularity in the early 1970s
- The “angry young man” of Hindi Cinema
- Most influential Indian film actor
- A career spanning more than four decades
- Won four National Film Awards
- Film producer and television anchor

Answer:

Amitabh Bachchan, the greatest Indian actor ever, was born in the year 1942 on 11th October. He is the son of the famous Indian poet, Harivansh Rai Bachchan. Amitabh gained immense popularity in the Indian cinema during the early 1970's and came to be known as the “angry young man” of Hindi cinema.

Till date, he is known to be the most influential actor of Hindi cinema. In a career span of more than four decades, he has won four National Film Awards and marked his presence as a film producer and television anchor as well. He also showed inclination towards politics and remained a member of parliament from 1984 to 1987.

Painter

Read the following information about Prashant Murthy and write his biographical sketch.

- Name: Prashant Murthy
- Age: 34
- Qualifications:
 - Bachelor of Fine Arts from Delhi College of Fine Arts
 - Masters of Fine Arts from Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi
- Exhibitions:
 - Nitanjali Art Gallery, 2002
 - India Habitat Centre, 2003-04
- Awards: Golden Artist Award 2005, Tagore Award 2007
- Major influence: M.F. Hussain

Answer:

Prashant Murthy is a 34 year-old painter. He graduated in Fine Arts from Delhi College of Fine Arts. He also holds a postgraduate degree in the same from Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi.

His works have made to a number of exhibitions like Nitanjali Art Gallery in the year 2002 and at India Habitat Centre in 2003-04. He has been awarded with Golden Artist Award in the year 2005 and Tagore Award in 2007. His major influence has been the famous painter, M.F. Hussain.